

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JAKART 11536 01 OF 02 240834Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05
TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 PA-01 H-01 /093 W
-----093552 240840Z /21

R 240740Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1045
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 JAKARTA 11536

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, ECIN, ID, ASEAN
SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTIONS TO ASEAN-US DISCUSSIONS

REF: (A) STATE 204257, (B) JAKARTA 11189

SUMMARY. FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH VARIOUS INDONESIAN
OFFICIALS REFLECT GENERAL SATISFACTION AND CONFIRM
REACTIONS AND ATTITUDES DESCRIBED IN REF A. INDONESIAN
EXPECTATIONS WERE NOT EXCESSIVE FROM THE OUTSET AND,
ACCORDINGLY, THEY WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED AND IMPRESSED
BY WASHINGTON'S CAREFUL PREPARATIONS AND THE PARTICIPATION
OF SO MANY HIGH-LEVEL USG PERSONALITIES. EXPOSURE TO SUCH
A BROAD RANGE OF THE U.S. LEADERSHIP INCLUDING CONGRESS,
TOP LEVEL SUPPORT FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CF,
AND THE OPIC/EXIM MISSIONS CONTRIBUTED VERY SUBSTANTIALLY
TO GOI'S GENERALLY FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE
MEETING. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 JAKART 11536 01 OF 02 240834Z

2. MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT WAS THE ABSENCE OF MEDIA
ATTENTION IN U.S., A POINT MADE TO US AGAIN BY AMBASSADOR
UMARYADI, HEAD OF THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY. UMARYADI CONSIDERS MEETING TO HAVE
BEEN PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL FROM THE "POLITICAL -
PSYCHOLOGICAL VIEWPOINT". HE THOUGHT THAT SECRETARY

VANCE AND OTHERS ON THE U.S. SIDE HAD BEEN EXCEEDINGLY EFFECTIVE IN CHAIRING THE VARIOUS MEETINGS AND IN ELICITING REACTIONS FROM THE ASEAN DELEGATES. THIS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO A GENUINE DIALOGUE ATMOSPHERE. ON THE OTHER HAND UMARYADI FELT THAT ON POLITICAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS VIETNAM THE ASEAN GROUP WAS NOT SUFFICIENTLY IN HARMONY AND INADEQUATELY PREPARED.

3. ON ECONOMIC SUBJECTS, UMARYADI NOTED PROGRESS MADE IN KEY AREAS SUCH AS THE CF AND INVESTMENT BUT INDICATED THAT HE PERSONALLY FELT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION COULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE ATTENTION ON BOTH SIDES. WE REMINDED UMARYADI THAT IT HAD BEEN ASEAN'S OWN PREFERENCE TO GIVE A HIGHER PRIORITY TO OTHER ECONOMIC SUBJECTS ON THE AGENDA.

4. AS FOR THE FUTURE UMARYADI SAID THAT ASEAN WOULD FIRST REVIEW THE RESULTS OF THE WASHINGTON MEETING AND THEN DETERMINE HOW TO PROCEED. THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE NEXT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN JAKARTA ON SEPTEMBER 14. REGARDING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN FOLLOW UP ON KEY DIALOGUE SUBJECTS, UMARYADI OBSERVED THAT A MAJOR COMPLAINT AMONG ASEAN GOVERNMENTS WAS THE PROLIFERATION OF MEETINGS, A PROBLEM WHICH HE FELT HAS TO BE SOLVED. THIS, TOO, WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE STANDING COMMITTEE

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PAGE 03 JAKART 11536 01 OF 02 240834Z

MEETING BUT HE DOUBTED THAT THE ASEAN COUNTRIES WOULD MOVE VERY FAST IN GIVING THE SECRETARIAT A MORE ACTIVE ROLE.

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PAGE 01 JAKART 11536 02 OF 02 240838Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 JAKARTA 11536

5. IN ANOTHER CONVERSATION, DR. MOOY, A DEPUTY IN BAPPENAS, REPORTED BRIEFLY MINISTER WIDJOJO'S REACTION UPON HIS RETURN TO JAKARTA ON THE EVE OF SUHARTO'S NATIONAL DAY SPEECH AUGUST 16. WIDJOJO TOLD MOOY PRIVATELY THAT THE MEETING HAD GONE VERY WELL INDEED, THAT IT HAD BEEN EXCEEDINGLY WELL ORGANIZED, AND THAT THERE WAS AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS OF KEY ISSUES. WIDJOJO WAS ESPECIALLY IMPRESSED BY THE OPEN AND FRANK MANNER IN WHICH OUR SENIOR OFFICIALS HAD DESCRIBED THE INFLUENCE OF CONGRESS IN POLICY MAKING. IT HAD BEEN QUITE A REVELATION FOR MOST ASEAN DELEGATES TO OBTAIN FIRST HAND EXPOSURE TO THE COMPLEXITIES AND IMPORTANCE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESS. WIDJOJO FELT THAT THIS WAS A VERY VALUABLE PART OF THE WASHINGTON MEETING.

6. FONDEP DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DARUSMAN SAID THAT ASEAN MEETING HAD FULFILLED INDONESIA'S "LIMITED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 11536 02 OF 02 240838Z

EXPECTATIONS," AND HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY VALUABLE IN ESTABLISHING GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. ADMINISTRATION. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MUCH STILL NEEDED TO BE DONE TO IMPROVE ASEAN RELATIONSHIP WITH CONGRESS, U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND PRESS. HE INDICATED THAT THIS TASK SHOULD NOW BE PRIORITY OF ASEAN EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON AND DEPLORED FACT THAT ONLY MALAYSIAN AND INDONESIAN EMBASSIES HAD THUS FAR BEEN ACTIVE IN THIS FIELD. DISPLAYING TYPICAL FONDEP CAUTION, DARUSMAN WARNED THAT PUBLIC PLAY GIVEN TO ASEAN-US RELATIONSHIP MUST BE KEPT WITHIN BOUNDS SO AS NOT TO INTRUDE ON INDONESIA'S CONCEPT OF ORGANIZATION AS NON-ALIGNED. IN THIS RESPECT, HE THOUGHT RAJARATMAN'S PRAISE AT THE ASEAN MEETING FOR THE CLOSENESS OF THE RELATIONSHIP, WHILE PERFECTLY TRUE, WAS BETTER LEFT UNSAID.
GARDNER

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